(b) if so, whether he addressed a Jewish Organisation there;

(c) whether he suggested there that India, Israel and U.S.A. had some sort of an institutional arrangement/pact to share intelligence;

(d) whether this pronouncement had Government's approval; and

(e) whether this means a departure from our traditional policy in such matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) The Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister and National Security Advisor visited Washington D.C. and New York in May 2003.

(b) He addressed the American Jewish Committee on 8 May, 2003 in Washington D.C., not in New York.

(c) He had suggested that all democratic countries, including India, Israel and the United States, should form a viable alliance against terrorism and develop the multilateral mechanisms to counter it.

(d) Yes.

(e) No.

Deals/MoUs with U.S.A.

507. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the deals and Memorandum of Understanding entered into between U.S.A. and India during the visits to U.S.A. of dignitaries from India recently including the Prime Minister;

(b) the details of the talks with the U.S.A. in the recent past in regard to the wide-ranging areas to further our relationship with U.S.A. post Pokhran-II; and

(c) the response of the U.S.A. Government to Prime Minister and other dignitaries visits and the impending benefits to be reaped in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) to (c) India and the United States are engaged in intensive and broad based dialogue at the political and official levels to pursue the goal of transforming bilateral relations, which was outlined by Prime Minister and President Bush in Washington D.C. in November, 2001.

The two sides have expanded their bilateral dialogue architecture, expanded political consultations and agreed to advance mutually beneficial cooperation in a number of areas, including trade, investment, energy, environment, health, science and technology, defence, counter-terrorism, counter-narcotics, law enforcement, cyber security, civilian space applications, safety related issues in civilian nuclear field and high technology cooperation, including in the areas of 'dual use' goods and technologies, information technology, biotechnology, nano-technology and defence technology.

These initiatives will contribute towards India's economic development, strengthening its security and advancing its scientific capabilities.

Resumption of Air Links with Pakistan

508. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to resume civil aviation links with Pakistan and where do the tech-level talks stand between the two countries; and

(b) the detail of steps taken by Government to resume Lahore bus link and other pending matters between the two countries to give peace a chance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) Prime Minister, in his statement in Parliament on May 2, 2003 offered the resumption of civil aviation links with Pakistan on reciprocal basis. Pakistan Prime Minister, in his statement on May 6, responded partially to this proposal, without indicating clearly the approach to over flights. As resumption of civil